

British Waterways - FAST FACTS

British Waterways cares for more than 2,000 miles of canals and rivers – approximately two thirds of all the UK's inland waterways.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- **3,000 listed structures**
- **130 scheduled ancient monuments**
- **1,520 locks**
- **3,270 bridges**
- **60 tunnels**
- **450 aqueducts**
- **1,036 lock cottages and dwellings**
- **89 reservoirs**

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- **1,000 wildlife conservation sites**
- **60 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)**
- **600 miles of hedgerow**

RECREATION

- **10 million** visitors each year make **160 million** visits to the waterways
- **2 million** visits by boaters and their passengers
- **2.6 million** visits by anglers
- **100,000 visitors** to waterway events
- **7.2 million visits by cyclists**
- **1.5 million visits by canoeists and other unpowered boaters**
- **26,000 boats licensed** on British Waterways' network
- **5 million 'lockings'** (passages through locks) each year on our waterways.

ECONOMIC

- **£1½billion** is spent by visitors to the waterways each year on goods and services
- **54,000 jobs** are supported
- Half the population of the UK lives within 5 miles of one of our waterways
- A canalside location adds up to **20% premium** on the value of a property
- British Waterways has a property portfolio valued at **£391million**
- British Waterways has been involved in over **£2billion** worth of urban and rural regeneration projects over the last decade
- Over **650km of fibre-optic cables** are buried beneath British Waterways' towpaths
- **200,000 megalitres** of water in British Waterways' canals, rivers and reservoirs
- **3½million tonnes** of freight are carried on the waterways each year
- **£81.7 million** trading income earned by British Waterways during 2002/2003
- Trading income up **20%** over last year's record figure

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